

NDE Bulletin
February 25, 2010

ARRA/NCLB Update

An ARRA/NCLB Update will be telecast on NET SAT Channel 105 (State Channel 04) at 10:00 a.m. (Central) on March 9, 2010. The telecast will be no more than one hour. For technical assistance contact the NET Help Desk at 800-698-3426. The powerpoint presentation used in the telecast will be posted by Friday morning, March 5th, on the ARRA homepage at:

<http://www.nde.state.ne.us/ARRA/index.html> A DVD of the telecast will be sent to all ESUs following the broadcast. The agenda for this ARRA/NCLB Update includes: planning for 2010-11 for Title I ARRA and NCLB funds, changes for closing out the 2009-10 applications, the new teacher and principal evaluation survey, and other updates on ARRA and ESEA.

Who Reports What

The Who Reports What Document found on the NSSRS Document Page

<http://www.nde.state.ne.us/nssrs/Documents.htm> has been updated to reflect students who are contracted out to another state. Please contact the NDE Helpdesk at 888-285-0556 or nde.helpdesk@nebraska.gov if you have any questions.

Title I Waiver Request for Comments

Contact: Randy McIntyre: Randy.McIntyre@nebraska.gov (402) 471-1749

NDE is seeking a waiver to extend the definition of persistently lowest-achieving schools to also include high schools with a graduation rate of less than 75% over a three year period of time. The current definition only allows high schools with less than a 60% graduation rate to be eligible for the new ESEA Section 1003(g) School Improvement Grants (SIG). The expansion of the definition would allow more high schools to become eligible for the SIG grants which are a combination of ARRA and ESEA funds. Nebraska will receive \$17 million for 2010-11 but in future years, the state will only receive the ESEA portion which will be less than \$3 million. The Title I waiver request is posted on the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act and Title I homepages at:

http://www.nde.state.ne.us/ARRA/School_Improvement_Grants.html or

<http://www.nde.state.ne.us/federalprograms/titlei/index.htm>. Comments are encouraged and should be submitted via email to Randy.McIntyre@nebraska.gov by 5:00 p.m. Central Time on March 4, 2010.

Rural Education Achievement Program (REAP)

Contact: Marilyn Peterson (402) 471-3504 or Marilyn.peterson@nebraska.gov

An updated spreadsheet of the districts that have received a REAP Small, Rural School Achievement (SRSA) grant award for fiscal years (FY) 2008 and 2009, and the unspent balance remaining for each grant. There is a separate tab at the bottom left of the spreadsheet for each fiscal year. The file is posted on the NCLB homepage under Featured Documents at:

<http://www.nde.state.ne.us/federalprograms/index.htm>

Districts that have remaining FY 2008 balances need to obligate those grant monies by September 30, 2010 and liquidate any obligated funds by December 30, 2010. For the FY 2009 SRSA grant awards, grantees need to obligate award funds by September 30, 2011 and liquidate them by December 30, 2011.

Reminders

Annual Data Conference

Contact: Bob Beecham (402)471-4740 Bob.beecham@nebraska.gov

New Dates set for NDE Data Conference: Due to some major scheduling conflicts, we are changing the dates of the 2010 Data Conference from May 3-4 to May 17-18. The conference will begin on Monday, May 17 at 1:00 PM with a presentation by Commissioner Breed. The conference will wrap up mid afternoon on Tuesday May 18. We are now accepting registrations on the conference website at <http://nedatapartnership.org/> A preliminary agenda will be posted to the conference website in early March.

IDEA Submission Reminder –Payment of IDEA Special Education Costs to Districts

Contact: Pete Biaggio (402) 471-4308 or pete.biaggio@nebraska.gov

Please be aware that there are two methods to obtain Payment for IDEA Special Expenses in the 2009-2010 school years:

1. Claims for **ARRA IDEA** Special Education Costs are processed within The NDE Grants Management System- GMS. The GMS is used for making all ARRA IDEA Special Education payments. The GMS is available through the NDE Portal at <https://portal.nde.state.ne.us>. Supporting documentation is required to receive payments.
2. Claims for **Non- ARRA** IDEA Special Education Costs are processed in paper form. NDE Form 28-052 is available at <http://www.nde.state.ne.us/ADSS/NDE28052IDEA.pdf> for those Districts choosing to use IDEA funding (as determined by application) for “new/expanded costs or CEIS costs.” Supporting documentation is required to receive payments. Districts choosing to use IDEA funds (as determined by application) as Excess cost, **DO NOT** submit requests for funds

2009-10 Curriculum Report: Due February 26, 2010

Contacts: Pam Tagart at (402) 471-4735 or pam.tagart@nebraska.gov

Kathy Heskett at (402-471-4738 or kathy.heskett@nebraska.gov

The Curriculum Reporting System can be found under the Data Collections tab on the NDE portal. All public districts, nonpublic systems, state operated systems and ESUs must report information on all teachers, including elementary and preschool. Paper forms will no longer be accepted for the Curriculum Report. There are two options to submit this data: 1) enter data online or 2) upload a data file. Instructions and other information for the 2009-2010 Curriculum Report can be found on the NSSRS Documents web page (<http://www.nde.state.ne.us/nssrs/Documents.htm>) under “Other Instructions” or at <http://ess.nde.state.ne.us/DataCenter/DataCollections/Default.htm> then click on [2009/10 Curriculum Report](#).

